



NEWS

State of New Jersey
Richard J. Codey, *Acting Governor*
Department of Community Affairs
Charles A. Richman, *Acting Commissioner*

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**NJ DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
ANNOUNCES \$2.295 MILLION
IN SMART FUTURE PLANNING GRANTS**

TRENTON – Acting Commissioner Charles Richman announced today that the Department of Community Affairs will award \$2,295,000 in Smart Future Planning Grants for Fiscal Year 2006. The deadlines for applications for the grants will be **October 15, 2005 *** and February 15, 2006. ***Note Extended Deadline**

“We’ve had great success with the Smart Future Grants over the past three years,” said Richman. “This year we want to make them an even more effective tool to help municipalities plan for the future – one that balances development and redevelopment with the preservation of open space and environmental resources.”

“We’ve created several new grant categories for this round of funding in order to focus on specific challenges so many municipalities are currently facing,” explained Maura McManimon, the Executive Director of the Office of Smart Growth. New to the grant process is the requirement that the final product include a “forward strategy” outlining the steps necessary for implementation. “The plans that are generated as a result of a Smart Future Planning Grant are meant to be implemented, which will also enable them to serve as models for other municipalities to follow,” said McManimon.

The seven categories for the Smart Future Planning Grants are:

Design Guidelines for Creating Places dedicates funds to produce design guidelines that will enhance redevelopment, rehabilitation or historic areas;

ReSTORE New Jersey assists in revitalizing neighborhood businesses and commercial districts;

Go Green! encourages the introduction of green building concepts into the framework of local governments;

Park & Go encourages innovative ways of dealing with various parking problems and creating alternatives and creative financing options;

Transfer of Development Rights allows a municipality to transfer the development potential of historic sites, farmland or environmentally sensitive areas into a receiving area that can accommodate growth;

Charrettes are intense, collaborative meetings that involve a diverse mix of professional experts and stakeholders in order to address various issues including land use, transportation, environment and recreation;

Greyfield Redevelopment encourages the redevelopment of areas that are already built up but in various phases of physical decline and/or economic underutilization that are not contaminated, such as shopping centers, strip malls and office parks.

More detailed information and application forms can be found on the Office of Smart Growth's website at <http://www.state.nj.us/dca/osg/resources/grants>. Applications must be completed and submitted electronically.

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